

Snow, warmer tonight (26°); rain or snow and warmer tomorrow.

The Washington Times

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WASHINGTON, FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 26, 1904.

PRICE ONE CENT.

FATE OF MACHEN NOW IN HANDS OF THE JURORS

Justice Refuses to Give Them Transcript of Evidence.

RETIRE AT 11 O'CLOCK

Discussion of Case Had Not Begun at 11:45 When Talesmen Returned.

Justice Pritchard concluded the reading of his charge and the prayers to the jury in the Postoffice conspiracy case at 11 o'clock this morning, and the jury retired.

Forty-five minutes later the jury came into court again to hear the decision of Justice Pritchard upon its request for testimony. The note to the justice said the jurors wanted the note, drafts, checks, the private account book of Lorenz, and the transcript of the testimony.

Transcript Is Refused.
Justice Pritchard gave the book, note, drafts, and checks which had been offered by both sides, but declined to allow the transcript of testimony to be sent to the jury room. He said:

"I do not think it good practice to allow the testimony to go to the jury. It would mean a retrying of the whole case in the juryroom, and that is not contemplated by the law."

"If the jury desires information upon any point of law or testimony, I will be glad to enlighten it at any time, and if necessary I will give further instructions to the jurors."

Carl Petersen, who had been selected as foreman by his colleagues, said that up to the time of returning to the courtroom the jurors had not begun the discussion of the case.

Interest Maintained.

The seats in the courtroom this morning were all filled, but there were only a few persons standing. The three defendants—Machen, Lorenz, and Diller B. Grogg—were troubled countenances, as did the women of their families who were present. They listened with the closest attention to the reading of the charge and prayers, and the spectators were also deeply interested in the instructions given to the jury in one of the most famous prosecutions ever undertaken by the Government.

Messrs. Beach and Teggart were the only Government attorneys present, but all of the attorneys for the defense were in the room.

Justice Pritchard read so rapidly that while his voice was clear and distinct, it was difficult for those in the back of the room to catch what he was saying.

At 1:50 Justice Pritchard sent a message to the jury room, asking if the jury were ready with a verdict. The jury said he would be in the court house until about 5 p. m. After that he would go home and would be ready to return and receive a verdict up to any reasonable hour, but would not come down at 11 or 12 at night to get it.

PRITCHARD'S CHARGE

TO MACHEN JURY

Justice Pritchard charged the jury as follows:

"Gentlemen of the jury: I congratulate you upon the fact that we are nearing the end of a trial which has required your attendance for an unusual length of time. It now becomes my duty to give you certain instructions with respect to the law applicable to this case, and in doing so I shall endeavor to be as brief as possible. The defendants named in the indictment are charged with the crime of conspiracy."

Justice Pritchard then read the count, in which it was set forth that defendants conspired to defraud the Government by using the influence and official position of Machen to procure the sale of the fasteners. The count also

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WEATHER REPORT.

Temperatures have fallen considerably in the South Atlantic States and the West, and have risen in the lake region, the central valleys, and the South. There will be snow tonight in the Ohio Valley, lower lake region, and Middle Atlantic States, and rain in the East Gulf States. There will be snow tomorrow in the lower lake region, rain or snow in the Middle Atlantic States, and rain in the South Atlantic States, except eastern Florida. Temperatures will be somewhat higher in the Atlantic States, and it will be colder tomorrow in the Ohio Valley and East Gulf States.

TEMPERATURE.

9 a. m. 18

12 m. 22

1 p. m. 22

2 p. m. 23

THE SUN.

Sun sets today 5:48 p. m.

Sun rises tomorrow 6:37 a. m.

TIDE TABLE.

High tide today 2:40 p. m.

High tide tomorrow 4:06 a. m., 4:45 p. m.

Low tide tomorrow 10:41 a. m., 11:32 p. m.

RUSSIAN TRAINS CROSSING TEMPORARY BRIDGE



The Czar's government for a long while has been pouring troops into Manchuria. The fact that one of the bridges over which the line passes had been damaged by flood did not more than temporarily stop the constant stream of re-enforcements, for a rough-and-ready bridge was speedily thrown across the river to serve while the damaged bridge was being repaired.

CAPTAIN BROOME SUES BARBOURS

Claim of Alienation of Wife's Affections Against a Washington Couple—"Refused Permission to See His Family."

Capt. George Cochran Broome, U. S. A., by his attorneys, Edward G. Niles and John S. Whit, today brought suit in the District Supreme Court for alleged alienation of his wife's affections against James F. Barbour and Annie D. Barbour, of Washington, claiming \$250,000 damages. Captain Broome is now stationed in Porto Rico.

Captain and Mrs. Broome (who was Mary Keyworth) were married in Washington on April 12, 1888. Captain Broome is a member of a well-known family of New York, where he formerly resided.

Built Palatial Residence.
Captain Broome had erected a palatial summer residence at Blinhampton, N. Y., where he and his wife went immediately after their marriage. While living at Blinhampton there was born the only child of the Broomes, a girl, who is now about three years of age.

Unable to See Child.
It is charged that on March 11, 1903, Mrs. Broome took the baby to Washington. Captain Broome was absent from San Juan at the time, but as soon as he had learned what had occurred he took the next boat to New York and came to Washington, where, he claims, he made several unsuccessful attempts to see Mrs. Broome and the baby. Meeting the baby and its nurse on the street one day, he forced the latter to accompany him and took the baby to Norfolk, telegraphing his wife immediately as to what he had done.

Induced to Separate.
Captain Broome also says "that with intent to deprive the plaintiff of the comfort, society, aid, companionship, and assistance of the said Mary K. Broome, the defendants promised to give to her a large sum of money, \$150 per month, provided she would agree to live separate and apart from the plaintiff, and to refuse to permit the plaintiff to see the infant child, Mary K. Broome, by which various wicked, false, malicious, unjust, and wrongful representations they have finally induced the said Mary K. Broome to refuse to give to the plaintiff her society, aid, comfort, and assistance."

Mrs. Barbour was a Mrs. Keyworth, and Mrs. Broome is her daughter, James F. Barbour being Mrs. Broome's stepfather.

Will Probably Raze Old Printing Office

Question of Safety Discussed in the Senate—Report of Subcommittee Submitted.

The old Government Printing Office Building and the discussion regarding its safety was before the Senate this afternoon on the subcommittee report made by Senators Scott and Latimer. It is probable the razing of the building will be ordered.

CIVIL SERVICE ACADEMY AGAIN ADVOCATED

The House Committee on Reform in the Civil Service today continued its hearings on the condition of the service and plans for promoting its efficiency. Capt. J. P. Walker, U. S. A., retired, was the first speaker today. He advocated the establishment of a civil service academy, and took issue with the statement made by General Ainsworth before the committee that the establishment of such an institution was an iridescent dream.

HEARINGS CONTINUE ON GROSVENOR BILL

The House Committee on the Judiciary today continued its hearings on the Grosvenor bill to limit the meaning of the word "conspiracy" and the use of injunctions in certain cases. A number of witnesses were heard.

ROCHESTER SWEEP BY A GREAT FIRE

Seven Million Dollars' Damage to Business Section Before Flames Are Gotten Under Control. Baltimore's Experience Averted.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Feb. 26.—Rochester's business section was threatened with destruction by a fire which broke out in the heart of the dry goods district at 5 o'clock this morning. The fire was gotten under control at 10:15 o'clock, and the loss is estimated at about \$7,000,000.

The fire started in the central elevator shaft of the Rochester Dry Goods Company, at 155 Main Street east. Ten minutes after the alarm had been sounded the six-story building was ablaze from cellar to roof, and the walls had begun to bulge.

Flames Spread Rapidly.
In less than half an hour the rear wall of the building went into Division Street, and the flames then spread to the seven-story "freeproof" building of the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company, in Division Street.

The walls began to go down in the wholesale building district shortly before 6 o'clock, and at 7 o'clock, Chief Little announced that the local department could not stop the fire. Buffalo and Syracuse were at once appealed to for assistance, and started special trains for this city with fire apparatus.

Series of Explosions.

At 6:30 o'clock the fire had practically made a clean sweep of the seven-story wholesale building of the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company. At 7 o'clock there was a series of explosions, which was followed by the breaking out of the flames in the twelve-story building, corner St. Paul and Main Streets, east of the loftiest structure in the city. The Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company occupies the lower floors with its retail quarters, while the ten upper floors have some hundreds of tenants.

Half an hour after the fire had entered this building it was breaking out of the windows on the twelfth floor. Guests in the Eggleston and Whitcomb Hotels in Main Street were called from their rooms soon after the fire started.

The Heat Terrific.

At 8 o'clock, half a square had been burned over, causing a loss estimated at \$7,000,000, and the fire was still spreading. The Buffalo and Syracuse companies arrived just before 8 o'clock. At 8:15 o'clock it seemed as though the fire would cross the south side of Main Street east, and windows in the stores on the south side of the street began to break under the terrific heat.

Breaking out as it did shortly before people were starting for work, the fire attracted an immense crowd and the entire night police force was called to assist in holding the crowd in check. Employees of the various concerns, whose places of business were destroyed, were among the earliest arrivals and were pressed into service to assist in removing the contents of the stores.

Water Has No Effect.

In the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr store there are over 1,000 persons employed, while in the other establishments there are employed some 1,500 more. The total number of persons directly affected by the fire will number some 2,000.

Filled as the dry goods stores were with highly inflammable materials, the fire, once gaining a foothold, swept

through them with irresistible fury. Streams from dozens of lines of hose apparently had not the slightest effect upon the flames, which continued to eat their way through the doomed structures.

Origin of Blaze.

Investigation shows that the fire originated in the basement of the Rochester Dry Goods Company. About 4:45 o'clock there was an explosion that almost wrecked the building and those adjoining, and this was followed by the appearance of a cloud of smoke and a sheet of flame that burst through the roof of the building.

Fire Wall Effective.
The Beadle & Sherburne store occupied five buildings east of the Rochester Dry Goods Company's store. These buildings were owned by the Helen Cornwall estate, Alice E. Burton, J. B. Cornwall estate, the Ellwanger & Barry Real Estate Company, and the estate of George C. Buell. All were destroyed, only parts of the walls remaining standing.

A fire wall separating the Sibley, Lindsay & Curr Company's wholesale building from the seven-story Cox Building, north, and extending to Mortimer Street, temporarily stopped the spread of the flames in that direction.

Driven From Homes.

When the walls of the Sibley building fell north they crushed in several small houses in Mortimer Street. The occupants of these houses had been taken from their homes by the police as soon as the extent of the fire was realized.

Shortly after the north wall went down the west wall went into St. Paul Street. This was followed by the explosion of the boilers, which shot the flames into the granite building. Up the rear elevator shaft the flames mounted to the twelfth story of the granite building—a height to which the firemen were unable to attain. This building was regarded as the finest office building in the city, and was considered absolutely fireproof. So fierce was the fire in the heart of this building that at 9 o'clock the front wall bulged perceptibly, and the rear wall, where the first fire appeared, was also becoming dangerous.

Marble Block Falls.

At 9 o'clock the front wall of the five-story marble block fell, going into Main Street. No one was hurt. The falling walls made the work of the firemen doubly hazardous, and Mayor Cutler at 9 o'clock ordered them back from the immediate vicinity of the burning buildings.

At 9:30 o'clock several companies were ordered to the roof of the Burke, Fitzsimmons, Hone Company's department store, on the northeast corner of Main and St. Paul Streets. This is a six-story building. While directing operations here Assistant Chief Jaynes was thrown to the sidewalk and rendered unconscious. He was removed to the Hahnemann Hospital.

At 10:15 the fire was practically under

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JAPS PARTIALLY BLOCK CHANNEL

Latest Reports Show That Sinking of Hulks in Harbor Has Bottled Up the Russian Warships.

MOVEMENT FROM BASE AT POSSIET BAY INTO MANCHURIA

Plan of Mikado to Invade Czar's Territory and Cut Communication With Port Arthur and Vladivostok.

Japanese Minister Takahira has received from the Japanese Foreign Office a telegram similar to the one sent to London, confirming the report that the effort of the Japanese to close the mouth of Port Arthur Harbor was successful.

LONDON, Feb. 26.—An official statement issued by the Japanese embassy here today has the effect of dividing opinion as to the actual outcome of the Japanese attempt to block the entrance to Port Arthur Harbor on the morning of February 24.

As a result, Europe is today as much at sea as ever whether the object contemplated by Admiral Togo was successful or not. The statement is evidently intended to give the impression that the channel was blocked, but is so ambiguous in its wording that either this might be taken from it, or merely the information that the ships were sunk without effectually blocking the Russian battle-ships inside.

The dispatch which is today attracting the most attention is the report that the Japanese have landed at Possiet Bay, south of Vladivostok, and not far distant from this Siberian port of Russia. While no confirmation of this report has been received military men consider it, if accomplished, a strategic movement of great significance on Japan's part and a hard blow to Russia.

The occupation of this territory would mean that Japan is in a position to carry on a campaign the successful accomplishment of which would be a hard blow to Russian power.

The continued bombardment of Port Arthur is puzzling naval authorities.

A report received this afternoon asserting that Russians have boarded the British steamer Mombassa in the Red Sea, in order that her papers might be examined, has caused irritation. If the report is true, Russia is stepping dangerously close to committing an indignity and offering an insult to a neutral power.

Movement of Japanese To Cut Russian Lines

LONDON, Feb. 26.—Nothing has stirred government circles here as much as the reports from Nuchwang that the missionaries are fleeing from the inland towns, coming into Nuchwang over the Manchuria railway.

Among those who have already reached Nuchwang is the Rev. W. H. Gillespie, who brought the information that the Japanese had made a landing at Possiet Bay, in Siberia. This is to the south of Vladivostok. The report further states that the Mikado's forces have advanced to Hun-Chun.

It is on the border line of northeastern Korea and about twenty-five miles inland. The Russian garrison is reported to have fled.

The Japanese are also said to be marching on to Kirin, from which town the inhabitants are further reported to have fled. The Russian bank has been removed to another garrison westward.

According to reports, the troops as they make their entry into the towns are burning them to the ground. Possiet Bay, where the Japs landed, borders on Russian Manchuria. It is about 100 miles south of Vladivostok.

Kirin, on which the Japanese are now said to be marching, is a little over 200 miles from where they effected a landing. The town is an important point. It is the terminus of an eighty-mile branch of the Siberian Railway, running from Kwangcheung, where many of the Russian inhabitants of the smaller towns have fled.

This latest move of the Japs, it is believed, is to cut the Russian lines, keeping off re-enforcements from Russia, while they deal with the enemy at Port Arthur, Dairen, Harbin, and other towns.

Besides the foregoing, a news agency has received a dispatch dated at Vladivostok that foreign warships have been hovering about the place. "The Daily Mail" says editorially: "The latest move of the Japs seems a reflection of some operation by the Japanese army in the direction of Vladivostok."

"Also the fact that a Japanese landing had been reported to Viceroy Alexieff would at once explain what has been done. Up to now there has been somewhat of a mystery in his sudden and hasty departure from Port Arthur."

"It would seem that the Japanese must have disembarked about a week ago, as soon as the Vladivostok squadron had been driven back to harbor. "While the inner recesses of Possiet Bay are frozen over three months in winter, it is stated that a landing can be effected at certain points at the present season of the year."

Summing up for and against the Nuchwang report, the "Mail" says:

"If the novel and surprising news be correct, it at last provides an explanation of what the Japanese army has been doing within the last few days of apparent inaction."

Japan Planning Attack On Russia's Big Army

By landing troops at Possiet Bay the Japanese are believed to be establishing a base of supplies for a campaign in the vicinity of Vladivostok, designed to divert part of the Russian troops which are now massing about the Yalu River.

Prominent strategists do not believe the Japanese will attempt any large movement from Possiet Bay toward Harbin, the junction of the Vladivostok and Port Arthur Railways, at this time. It is thought the Japanese will move an army from Wansan, on the northeast coast of Korea, where 30,000 Japanese soldiers are now stationed, toward the Yalu River, and will send another army to the Yalu from Seoul, and a third army from Possiet Bay southward toward the Yalu.

By such a movement military authorities say the Japanese could divide the attention of the Russian officers and confuse them by flank attacks where the line happened to be weakest. It is thought the Japanese force sent from Possiet Bay will move far to the west before moving down on the Russians,

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